
Name of Organization: Great Lakes Commission

Type of Organization: Interstate Agency or Commission

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Project Title: Pollution Prevention Outreach: the Lake Erie Boater's Guide

Project Category: Pollution Prevention and Reduction - BNS

Rank by Organization (if applicable): 1

Total Funding Requested (\$): 125,644 **Project Duration:** 1 Years

Abstract:

The Great Lakes Commission, in cooperation with the Northwest Ohio Pollution Prevention Team, will provide the recreational marine industry boating public with a new resource to protect the environmental health and integrity of the waters of the Western Basin of Lake Erie. A pilot project with applicability elsewhere in the Great Lakes St. Lawrence System, the guide will disseminate pollution prevention information such as hazardous waste disposal; plastics, trash, and oil/fuel recycling; treatment and disposal of on-board sewage and greywater; purchase of "green" products; and boat maintenance and repair, among others. Complementing this will be more "traditional" information, including safe boating practices, marine communications; navigation roles and regulations; touring assistance; and harbor photos, maps and services, among others. The guide will be modeled after a highly successful Southern California Boater's Guide developed by the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Project (<http://www.smbay.org/GUIDE/672.htm>).

Geographic Areas Affected by the Project

States:

<input type="checkbox"/> Illinois	<input type="checkbox"/> New York
<input type="checkbox"/> Indiana	<input type="checkbox"/> Pennsylvania
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michigan	<input type="checkbox"/> Wisconsin
<input type="checkbox"/> Minnesota	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Ohio

Lakes:

<input type="checkbox"/> Superior	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Erie
<input type="checkbox"/> Huron	<input type="checkbox"/> Ontario
<input type="checkbox"/> Michigan	<input type="checkbox"/> All Lakes

Geographic Initiatives:

<input type="checkbox"/> Greater Chicago	<input type="checkbox"/> NE Ohio	<input type="checkbox"/> NW Indiana	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SE Michigan	<input type="checkbox"/> Lake St. Clair
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Primary Affected Area of Concern: Maumee River, OH

Other Affected Areas of Concern: River Raisin, Michigan
 Detroit River (U.S. and Canada)
 Wheatley Harbour, Ontario.

For Habitat Projects Only:

Primary Affected Biodiversity Investment Area:

Other Affected Biodiversity Investment Areas:

Problem Statement:

The Western Basin of Lake Erie is home to approximately 250 marinas and approximately 90,000 registered recreational boats. It is also home to more than 140 managed areas, nearly 60 potable and nonpotable surface water intakes, the Great Lakes' most productive fishery, numerous state and federally-listed threatened and endangered species, and many stop-overs for migratory waterfowl. Managing the basin for intensive human use, while protecting the integrity of the resource is a priority. Recognizing this, the Northwest Ohio Pollution Prevention Team agreed that there was a need to provide the citizenry with comprehensive information on pollution prevention, recycling and waste reduction. They subsequently developed the web site www.bgsu.edu/recycle and the "P2 hotline" 800-686-6930 for citizens to obtain locations for item recycling and to provide concrete information on waste generation and reduction. The Team further recognized that additional steps were required, and approached the Great Lakes Commission to assist in outreach to the recreational marine industry.

Proposed Work Outcome:

The proposed project will yield a hard copy publication titled, The Boater's Guide to the Western Basin of Lake Erie, to be distributed to Western Basin marinas, marine stores, and private boat owners. A corresponding electronic version will also be made available on the existing web-site for the Northwest Ohio Pollution Prevention Team (www.bgsu.edu/recycle). Both products will be introduced to other regions of the Great Lakes as models for similar efforts. The Guide will provide the recreational marine industry with comprehensive information on pollution prevention in a product that also highlights harbor information, communications, and other information relevant to the boating public.

To achieve project goals the Great Lakes Commission proposes the following tasks:

- a. Project publicity and partnership building: The Commission and project partners will prepare and distribute an initial letter outlining the project purpose and scope for Western Basin marina and marine store owners. The distribution list will be generated from Commission and Ohio Department of Natural Resources databases. The letter will also seek the support from members of this group in compiling and distributing the guide.
- b. Marina Survey: A survey will be developed by the Commission and project partners to solicit data including services available at individual marinas such as bilge pump-outs, sewage pump-outs and dump stations, recycling facilities, and trash receptacles. In addition, expanded descriptions about each marina will be sought at this time.
- c. Preparation of draft guide: The Commission will prepare a draft Guide for review by project partners that includes, among others, the following information:
 - General boating information including boating safety, communications, and navigational information.
 - Listing of marinas by county/harbor with specific amenities and pollution prevention services available.
 - Pollution prevention information specifically designed for boaters, including "green" alternative products for boat maintenance.

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- Invasive species awareness information for boaters.
 - Brief overview of tourist attractions in the Western Basin with a "Calendar of Events".
 - Facts about the Western Basin including history, wildlife, threatened and endangered species.
- d. Completion and distribution of final Guide: Comments will be incorporated from project partners, layouts for publication will be finalized, and multiple copies of the Guide will be distributed to marinas, marine stores, yacht clubs, and boater's groups for distribution to recreational boaters before the opening of the 2001 boating season. "Pull-out" survey cards will be included with the Guide to gauge individual response, address possible changes for other guides developed on the Great Lakes, and serve as a review for future Western Basin editions.
- e. Publication and outreach: The Commission and project partners will convene a pre-2001 boating season conference for the recreation marine industry to explain and distribute the Guide. The Northwest Ohio Pollution Prevention Team will meet with marina owner/operators and county solid waste districts to establish pollution prevention services at key marinas and harbors. The project will be highlighted at the 24th Ohio Inland Spills Conference in Toledo, Ohio in September 2000. Throughout the process, Commission and project partner/representatives will attend boat and trade shows to highlight the project and product.

Project Milestones:**Dates:**

Project Start	09/2000
Project publicity & partnership building	10/2000
Marina Survey	12/2000
Preparation of draft guide	02/2001
Completion & distribution of final guide	04/2001
Publicity and outreach	09/2001
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Project End	09/2001

☐ Project Addresses Environmental Justice

If So, Description of How:

☒ Project Addresses Education/Outreach

If So, Description of How:

While the Guide is intended as hard copy educational and outreach component of this project, corresponding work will be completed by the Commission and project partners to reach the target audience on a one-on-one basis. For users of the Guide, workshops, meetings, and visits to marinas will be first utilized to introduce users to the contents. Parallel to this effort, support will be sought from marina owners/operators and solid waste districts to increase services available to boaters for pollution prevention activities. In addition, the invasive species information presented in the Guide will continue the effort to minimize their impacts and spread throughout the Great Lakes. This approach should help bring basic information and tangible steps the recreational boating industry can take to help preserve and restore the natural and recreational resources of the lakes.

Project Budget:

	Federal Share Requested (\$)	Applicant's Share (\$)
Personnel:	35,000	2,884
Fringe:	12,250	1,010
Travel:	1,000	0
Equipment:	0	0
Supplies:	400	0
Contracts:	4,000	0
Construction:	0	0
Other:	40,000	0
Total Direct Costs:	92,650	3,894
Indirect Costs:	32,994	2,719
Total:	125,644	6,613
Projected Income:	0	0

Funding by Other Organizations (Names, Amounts, Description of Commitments):

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency has guaranteed the availability and services of two individuals from the Northwest District Office on a part time basis throughout the length of the project. One individual will be from the Division of Surface Water and one from the Division of Emergency and Remedial Response. Both individuals have been working on the Northwest Ohio Pollution Prevention Team for three years. In addition, Boat U.S., the largest recreational boat owners association in the United States, will be offering either financial or in-kind support to the project. Other in-kind support will come from the members of the Northwest Ohio Pollution Prevention Team. Letters of support to this project are on file at the Commission's offices from the individual agency members of the Northwest Ohio Pollution Prevention Team.

Description of Collaboration/Community Based Support:

The Guide will be highlighted at a pre 2001 boating season event in Northwest Ohio; various workshops and conferences hosted the Great Lakes Commission, Ohio Lake Erie Commission, and the members of the Northwest Ohio Pollution Prevention Team; and various regional, national, and international conferences. The promotion and packaging of the Guide will be through media such as the Commission's ADVISOR newsletter, GLIN, the "What's New" section of the Commission's web site, and other publications and events. On a broader scale, the Guide will be shared and developed with other regions of the Great Lakes, both U.S. and Canadian, to foster a comprehensive and systematic set of guides for the entire Great Lakes. In-kind partnership contributions have been secured from Ohio Environmental Protection Agency, Northwest Ohio Pollution Prevention Team, Ohio Lake Erie Commission, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Coast Guard Marine Safety Office Toledo, Environment Canada, and Boat U.S. Prospective collaborators include relevant solid waste districts, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, The Nature Conservancy, and the Lake Erie Marine Trades Association.